[English]

Complaints Received in Kendriya Bhandar

3834. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) number of complaints received by the General Manager, Kendriya Bhandar, New Delhi from December, 1995 to November, 1996 regarding less weighment of Rationed Articles;

(b) the names of the branches about which the complaints were received and action taken against guilty officials;

(c) the number of cases in which acknowledgement to complainants were sent, but final reply about action taken or proposed to be taken has not been sent so far; and

(d) the time by which the management propose to expedite replies in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b). Two such complaints were received in respect of Vasant Vihar and Kali Bari Stores. The Store Incharge of the Vasant Vihar Store was cautioned to pay personal attention to the performance of the weighing machines. However, disciplinary proceedings are being initiated against the concerned employees of the other Store.

(c) and (d). Reply has been sent in regard to the first complaint. It remains the endeavour of the management to send replies in such cases as early as possible.

Power Policy

3835. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWLAY :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether fresh initiatives has been taken by the Union Government in consltation with the Chief Ministers and Energy Ministers of State Governments to consider indepth various bottlenecks in formulation and implementation of policies in power sector;

(b) if so, the decision taken in the meeting;

(c) whether any time bound action plan has been formulated in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d). A draft Common National Action Plan on Power was considered in a meeting of the Chief Ministers/Energy Ministers of States held on 3.12.1996.

Finalisation of the Action Plan, based on the suggestions received during the Chief Ministers Conference, is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

FPI in Bihar

3836. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to set up food processing unit in the North Bihar in view of the good crops of mango, lichi, banana etc.; and

(b) if so, the time by which the above proposal is likely to be given clearance and the places at which such units are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) and (b). The Ministry does not set up any food processing unit directly in any State. However, since liberalisation, most of the food processing industries are delicenced and in such cases, the entrepreneur is required to file only an Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum. As per information available, since liberalisation till October '96, 30 IEMs involving an investment of about Rs. 250 crores and envisaging employment of 2597 persons for setting up food processing units in Bihar have been filed. Out of this, 2 IEMs involving an investment of Rs. 19 crores and employment of 182 persons have already been implemented at Santhal Parganas and Sitamarhi.

Besides, approvals are granted by the Government for setting up food processing industries in joint venture, foreign collaboration, 100% EOU etc. 7 such approvals involving an investment of about Rs. 33 crores have also been grants for setting up food processing units in Bihar. These units are proposed to be located at Muzaffarpur, Bhagalpur, Bhojpur and Samastipur.

[English]

Natural Gas

3837. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of natural gas has so far been exploited from the wells in Tripura; and

(b) whether the ONGC has not taken any initiatives to supply gas for Ramchandra Nagar and third unit of Rokhia Gas Based Power Projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Around 108 million cubic meters of gas has been produced in Tripura so far in the current financial year.